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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shinichirou KASHIWAGI et al. Conf.: 6251
Appl. No.: 10/084,187 Group: 3682
Filed: February 28, 2002 Examiner: L. Footland
For: BEARING DEVICE

REPLY TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

December 23, 2002

Sir:

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In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated JUL 24 2003
November 26, 2002, the following Remarks are respectfully GROUP 3600
submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

R E M A R K S

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner required an election of species between five species shown in the various figures. By way of the present response, Applicants herewith elect the third species shown in Figures 6 and 7. All four claims relate to this species. In addition, claim 3 also relates to species four and five shown in Figures 9 and 10 and 12 and 13, respectively. This election is made with traverse.

Applicants submit that the Examiner has not met his burden of showing the distinctiveness of the various species.

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